

# BOY CAPTAIN OF ROBBER BAND

## COPS GATHERED IN FIVE OF THE "AMATEUR CRACKSMEN."

They Did a Lot of Talking and Maybe Some Stealing—One Taken in Ambush in His Store After Hours, Tells on Pais—East Side Criminal Drama Blamed.

Bennie Rovner, who is 16 and sharp as a razor, was ushered in an East Side theater where he got to work. They gave him a play in the theater dealing with the smoothness of thieves and poking fun at lubberly police.

The sleuths of the East 104th street station have been trying for some weeks to find out who have been breaking into stores in that precinct. The jobs were done rather neatly, but they were not done by the same hand. Patrick Dunn, who had been in the station house Wednesday afternoon and told Capt. Brennan that someone had tried to force the door of his bicycle shop, at 1331 Fifth avenue. He had not missed anything, but thought the thieves might make another try.

Brennan sent Detectives Haggerty and Thompson around to hide in the store. After Dunn closed up and went away, the detectives hid somebody tinkering with the door. Pretty soon an under-sized boy slipped in and they nabbed him. He was so scared that he tried to run, but he was taken in the street. He gave his name as Randolph Denoble, and said he was 14 years old. The detectives found on the sidewalk in front of the store, arrested them and took the three to the police station.

Young Denoble told the police that he had been in the store with a gang of five to rob rats and stores. He said that Rovner was very proud of his band and called them "the amateur cracksmen." He told them he got out of a "buddy good" play. "I am so small," said Denoble, "that Rovner and the big ones made me slip into holes and over transoms and pass stuff out to them. We didn't always do things that way, though, because we are a real bunch of cracksmen and know how to do the thing up, right."

Rovner, who lives at 1517 Madison avenue, wouldn't say a word. He answered questions brightly and showed himself to be a boy of unusual intelligence, but the police couldn't get him to admit anything. He and Schoenbach, who is 20 years old, were charged with disorderly conduct, and yesterday morning Magistrate Baker, in the Harlem police court, sent them to the workhouse for six months.

The detectives then took Denoble out to see if they could catch other members of the "amateur cracksmen." At Lexington avenue and 104th street, the boy pointed out William Jacob, who was charged with robbing a store at Lexington and 104th street, and started to run, but they grabbed him and they were taken to the station house.

Both boys said that Rovner had talked to them a good deal about how easy it was to get the best of the police. They said they hadn't meant to do any harm, but thought it was fun to organize themselves into a "robber band" under Rovner's lead. They were locked up.

# QUIT CIVIL SERVICE BOARD.

State Board Inquiry About Favoritism and Other Freaks of Nature.

Secretary Henry Berlinger of the local civil service board was the principal witness before the State Civil Service Commission, which has begun an investigation into the workings of the classified service here. Mr. Berlinger, who was admitted that he was a member of the Pensacola Club, the regular Tammany organization of the Fourteenth Assembly district, in fact, he is a governor of the club and financial secretary of the general committee of the district. Strange as it may seem, he also knows John T. Oakley, the Tammany leader of the district. Mr. Berlinger confessed that at times he gave out application blanks for civil service jobs at the clubhouse. It was the custom, he said, and he saw no reason for not following it since he became secretary of the Municipal Civil Service Commission about sixteen months ago.

John E. Kraft, one of the State commissioners, said he did not think it was a matter of importance that the application blanks were given out. He said he was a member of a political club at Kingston and often sent down to the city commission's office for as many as 1,500 blanks at a time, to be distributed up here. Afterward he amended the statement by saying that the number of blanks he applied for was 150 at a time.

In the matter of Richard J. Cunningham, who was after a job as building inspector, Berlinger testified that he personally had filed the application.

"Where is the application now?" he was asked.

"It is lost," was the answer.

"How did it come to be lost?"

"I can't say. It just happened."

Cunningham, who said he was a member of the Pensacola Club, told the Commission that he didn't believe he had got a square deal. Do you think that Mr. Berlinger was knocking you?" he was asked.

"I don't know that he had anything against me personally," he was asked. "He isn't the boss."

Cunningham said that Mr. Oakley had told him to go to Berlinger for the application blank and that the leader was present when he got the paper at the Pensacola Club. He said he returned the application blank to Berlinger, but did not know what had become of it.

# WEYGANDT FOUND GUILTY.

Convicted of Abduction, He Boasts of Escaping Previous Sentence.

Arthur Weygandt was convicted of abduction before Judge Cowing in General Sessions yesterday. According to the police records, Weygandt has led more than twenty-five girls into evil lives. Not long ago he was arrested on the complaint of his wife.

The complainant against Weygandt was Johanna Noubert, the seventeen-year-old daughter of John Noubert, a well-to-do wine merchant in St. Mark's place. When the police found her, she said she had been in a hospital. The parents of the girl testified that Weygandt yesterday admitted that he had been arrested a number of times, but had never served a day in jail.

"You don't see that you were sentenced to six months for a similar offense," said Assistant District Attorney Smythe.

"I got the best of it," replied Weygandt, "but I never did anything that I got away with."

Levy Denies Sioux City Story.

Abe Levy, who was Nan Patterson's chief counsel, said yesterday that he never in Sioux City and never saw C. Irvin, a lawyer who was quoted as saying that Levy had told him that Nan Patterson told her lawyers that Young was shot while she was trying to bluff him.

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The ideal territory for a Summer home or an Outing, 250 miles of coast, with the best of both worlds, a fine sea and a fine land, is reached in summer by the prevailing south winds from the ocean. Exceeding fine and water bathing, boating, driving, automobilizing and everything that makes a vacation enjoyable.

**"SUMMER HOMES,"** a booklet giving full details of the territory, with a map, is sent on application to the publisher, **Long Island**, 120 Broadway, 615 Sixth Ave., New York, N. Y. Price, 10 cents. For a copy, send 10 cents to the publisher, **Long Island**, 120 Broadway, 615 Sixth Ave., New York, N. Y.

**Briarcliff Manor, N. Y.**  
**BRIARCLIFF LODGE,**  
Open all year.  
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Open all year.

Mr. E. S. Comerford, representative, will be at Briarcliff Manor, in Windsor Arcade, 4th Avenue and 42nd Street, on week days, from 10 A. M. to 6 P. M.

**BRIARCLIFF MANOR, N. Y.**  
**DAVID B. FLEMMER,**  
General Manager.

**The Hotel Frontenac**  
1,000 Islands, St. Lawrence River.

**OPENS JUNE 17TH.**

A magnificent hotel, beautifully situated on an island in the St. Lawrence River. The favorite resort for motorists, anglers, and those who enjoy the life of the river. The hotel is a masterpiece of architecture, with a fine dining room, a large ball room, and a fine swimming pool. The hotel is open all year, and is a favorite resort for those who enjoy the life of the river.

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Now ready for inspection. Capacity, 400. Will open June 1st and remain open all year. The hotel is a masterpiece of architecture, with a fine dining room, a large ball room, and a fine swimming pool. The hotel is open all year, and is a favorite resort for those who enjoy the life of the river.

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HOTEL AND COTTAGES  
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Golf, Tennis, Hunting, Fishing, Music.  
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Always Open. Hot and cold sea water baths. Long distance telephone in every bedroom; golf links. Write for illustrated literature.

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Situate directly on the beach front, with unobstructed view of the ocean. Sea water in private baths. Golf links privileges. OPEN THE ENTIRE YEAR.

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**New Hotel Pierrepont,**  
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Rooms in suite with private baths. All modern appointments. Auto meets train. Write for literature.

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Open all year. Directly on ocean front. Running water in every room. Sea water in private baths. Water from artesian wells. Improved sanitary system. Golf club privileges. Write for literature.

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STONE, IRON AND SLATE CONSTRUCTION. Claims for the location, construction, convenience and best New York patronage. Capacity, 100. Music all year. Golf links. Write for literature.

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Best location on the Ocean Front.  
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Second house from Beach. Capacity, 200. Suites with bath, elevator to street level. Write for literature.

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Jefferson, N. H.,  
In the White Mountains

Season June to October.  
Family cottages a special feature.  
Superb golf links and other attractive out of door sports.  
Information and booklet.  
Address until June,  
**A. J. MURPHY, Manager,**  
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THE MOUNT PLEASANT  
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THE GREAT HOTELS OF

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Representative at 8 Park Place, New York, N. Y., 100 to 120 P. M.

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Overlooking Ocean, 4 acres shaded lawns. Rooms and cottages for 100. European plan. Superior cuisine. Select patronage. Orchestra. Night club. All modern improvements. Famous Gladiolus Spring water exclusively. Write for descriptive booklet.

**ANDREW RADCLIFF, A. L. SMITH, Proprietors.**

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Old Point Comfort, Virginia.

Open all year. For booklets, etc., address **GEORGE P. ADAMS, Mgr., Porters House, Va.**

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Historic Situation, Magnificent Appointments, Reasonable Charges. Unequaled Cuisine.

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Palatial Steamers "NEW YORK" and "ALBANY" of the Hudson River Day Line, fastest and finest boats in the world. Leave New York, N. Y., for Albany, N. Y., 8:00 A. M. and 1:00 P. M. Leave Albany, N. Y., for New York, N. Y., 9:00 A. M. and 2:00 P. M.

**STEAMER MARY POWELL**  
Leaving New York, N. Y., for Albany, N. Y., 8:00 A. M. and 1:00 P. M. Leave Albany, N. Y., for New York, N. Y., 9:00 A. M. and 2:00 P. M.

**BOSTON AND POINTS IN NEW ENGLAND**  
FALL RIVER LINE, via New York and Fall River. Leave New York, N. Y., for Fall River, Mass., 8:00 A. M. and 1:00 P. M. Leave Fall River, Mass., for New York, N. Y., 9:00 A. M. and 2:00 P. M.

**PEOPLES LINE**  
NEW YORK-ALBANY-ROCKY HILL-NEW HAVEN LINE, via New York, Albany, Rocky Hill, and New Haven. Leave New York, N. Y., for Albany, N. Y., 8:00 A. M. and 1:00 P. M. Leave Albany, N. Y., for New York, N. Y., 9:00 A. M. and 2:00 P. M.

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Catonsville, Md., 10 days, \$10.00. Niagara Falls, 10 days, \$10.00. Virginia Beach, 10 days, \$10.00. Write for literature.

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**WHITE STAR LINE.**  
NEW YORK-SUBURBAN-LOVERPOOL. Sailing Wednesdays and Fridays, 8:00 A. M. Leave New York, N. Y., for Liverpool, England, 8:00 A. M. and 1:00 P. M. Leave Liverpool, England, for New York, N. Y., 9:00 A. M. and 2:00 P. M.

**THE MEDITERRANEAN LINES.**  
ANTWERP-DOVER-LONDON-PARIS. Sailing Wednesdays and Fridays, 8:00 A. M. Leave New York, N. Y., for London, England, 8:00 A. M. and 1:00 P. M. Leave London, England, for New York, N. Y., 9:00 A. M. and 2:00 P. M.

**LAND OF THE MIDNIGHT SUN**  
Special Tours to Northern Europe, including visits to the Arctic Circle, Lapland, and the North Pole. Write for literature.

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New York Central & Hudson R. R. Leases. Trains leave New York, N. Y., for West Shore, N. Y., 8:00 A. M. and 1:00 P. M. Leave West Shore, N. Y., for New York, N. Y., 9:00 A. M. and 2:00 P. M.

**PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD**  
STATIONS: 100 West 42nd Street and 100 West 42nd Street. Trains leave New York, N. Y., for Philadelphia, Pa., 8:00 A. M. and 1:00 P. M. Leave Philadelphia, Pa., for New York, N. Y., 9:00 A. M. and 2:00 P. M.

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**HOLLAND-AMERICA LINE.**  
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**Lackawanna Railroad**  
Leaves New York, N. Y., for Lackawanna, N. Y., 8:00 A. M. and 1:00 P. M. Leave Lackawanna, N. Y., for New York, N. Y., 9:00 A. M. and 2:00 P. M.

**AMERICAN LINE.**  
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**RED STAR LINE.**  
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